

## **BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the Suspension )  
 )  
or Revocation of the Educator )  
 )  
Certificate of Denise M. Haselden )  
 )  
Certificate 152955 )

### **ORDER OF REVOCATION**

### **SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on May 9, 2006. On March 17, 2006, the State Department of Education sent Denise M. Haselden a notice of her right to a hearing regarding the possible revocation of her South Carolina educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. Ms. Haselden received the letter, as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing her signature. Ms. Haselden did not request a hearing in writing within the time frame specified in the notice letter. After considering the information presented, the State Board voted to revoke Ms. Haselden's certificate.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

Ms. Haselden holds a valid South Carolina certificate with over seventeen years of teaching experience. During the 2004-05 school year, Ms. Haselden was employed as a Math teacher at Latta Middle School in Dillon County School District Three (District). On May 3, 2005, Ms. Haselden's employment with the District was suspended due to erratic behavior and her admitted misuse of medication. Subsequently, Ms. Haselden was arrested on the charge of possession of less than one gram of ice/crack cocaine on May 25, 2005, and the District Board of Trustees terminated her employment on August 9, 2005. Ms. Haselden was then convicted on the criminal charge on September 8, 2005.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The State Board may revoke the certificate of any person for just cause; just cause includes unprofessional conduct, evident unfitness to teach and crime against the law of this State or the United States. S.C. Code Ann. §§ 59-25-150 and 160 (2004). The State Board finds that there is sufficient information to support a conclusion that just cause exists to revoke Ms. Haselden's South Carolina certificate. Should Ms. Haselden ever wish to reapply for certification in South Carolina, she may not do so until after May 8, 2009. To be eligible for certification at that time, Ms. Haselden must meet all current certification requirements and she must submit to a character and fitness review by the State Board.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Joe Isaac  
Joe Isaac, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
May 9, 2006